

Response to:

Consumer Good (Quad Bike) Safety Standard 2019

ATV LIFE GUARDS supports the 'Quad Bike Safety Exposure draft 2019'.  
ATV LIFE GUARD accepts the ACCC findings in full.

With reference to:

15. General Operator Protective Devices.

ATV LIFE GUARDS are in complete agreement of the fitment of Operator Protection Devices for General Purpose Quad Bikes.

Any changes to this would be a case of 'doing nothing' and result in more deaths of operators following a Quad Bike roll over. This calendar year in Australia there have been seven Quad Bike related deaths, of which six are reported as roll overs, trapping or pinning the operator under the Quad Bike, none had Operator Protective Devices fitted.

The urgency to sign off on the recommendations are imperative to reduce the tragic toll of Quad Bike related deaths.

In April 2019, two young children from Tasmania and Western Australia going about their family farms died under their farm Quad Bike, pinned by the weight the Quad Bike, unable to push the 300kg Quad Bike off them, horrific and tragic accidents that may have been prevented.

Worksafe Tasmania Government spokesman and representative from Worksafe Western Australia have confirmed, and voiced their opinion, both these children would have survived the rollover if these Quad Bikes were fitted with Operator Protective Devices.

In addition to the ACCC recommendations, ATV LIFE GUARDS would like to see the retrospective fitment of Operator Protective Devices to all General-Purpose Quad Bikes across Australia within the same 2-year period as recommended in the Quad Bike Exposure Safety Exposure Draft 2019.

Note:

ATV LIFE GUARD have been sold in Australia since January 2012 with approx. over 11 million hours of usage of Quad Bikes fitted with the ATV LIFE GUARD.

Farmers who have experienced a rollover on a Quad Bike with an ATV LIFE GUARD fitted, have commented on how well it worked when they experienced a rollover situation and how it saved them from any serious injury.

There has been no reported serious accidents or fatalities with the ATV LIFEGUARD fitted in these six half years either in New Zealand or Australia.

ATV Lifeguards and the fitment of Operator Protective Devices since 2013 have been supplied, fitted, promoted, stocked and marketed by over 125 Quad Bike Franchised Dealers in Australia that are represented by the major manufacturers in the FCAI.

These FCAI Quad Bike associated dealers are extremely proactive in offering the ATV LIFEGUARD to their farmers who enquire about Quad Bike Operator Protection Devices and many dealerships offer it on every Quad Bike sold.

Many of these FCAI Associated Quad Bike Dealers have sold over 50 ATV LIFEGUARDS, some have sold 200 ATV LIFEGUARDS, these dealers actively promote the fitment of the ATV LIFEGUARD to their Quad Bikes.

These FCAI associated Quad Bike dealers are from all most States, Regions and Towns across Australia.

Approx.: 75% - 80% of the sales of ATV LIFEGUARDS in Australia are through FCAI Quad Bike Dealership outlets.

Worksafe Victoria, Safework NSW, Worksafe Tasmania all offer financial incentives to purchase suitable approved and tested Operator Protective Devices.

The ATV LIFEGUARD has been awarded the CE Mark.

(CE marking is a certification mark that indicates conformity with health, safety, and environmental protection standards for products sold within the European Economic Area. The CE marking is also found on products sold outside the EEA that are manufactured in, or designed to be sold in, the EEA.)

ATV LIFEGUARDS

Australia

June 2019